

*Memo for AS
Clarke re what's
left of Iraq's nuclear
program*
~~SECRET~~ [redacted] 25X1
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3 Oct 91***Iraq's Nuclear Weapons Program: Wounded, But Not Dead**

Despite the setback of bombings and inspections at most, if not all, of his nuclear facilities, Saddam Hussein retains substantial nuclear expertise and is attempting to forge ahead with nuclear weapons development. Iraq's continuing efforts to prevent the destruction or removal of its remaining nuclear infrastructure, [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] and our assessment of Saddam's tenacity in his desire for nuclear weapons lead us to conclude that Iraq intends to finish the weapons effort it started at least a decade ago. [redacted] 25X1

The recent episode involving Iraq's interruption of UN/IAEA inspections at two buildings that were key to the nuclear program's rebuilding effort illustrates the latest in a series of actions Baghdad has undertaken to avoid surrendering nuclear assets that could contribute to revamping the program. Other, similar efforts have included non-declaration of facilities, sanitizing operations at sites where Iraq feared sampling analysis would disclose program details, and incomplete or false answers to queries by inspectors. This pattern of noncompliance to UN Security Council Resolutions 687 and 707 almost certainly is driven more by a desire to preserve future options than it is by a fear of revealing past indiscretions. [redacted] 25X1

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